



# CHESHIRE FARM VETS

Tel: 01270 310010

## Newsletter

September/October 2023

### Welcome to Lizzie

We are excited to welcome Lizzie to the Cheshire Farm Vets team.

Lizzie graduated from RVC in 2020 and went onto work in a mixed practice in West Yorkshire but is now making a move down here to Cheshire in search of more dairy work. Originally from Nottingham Lizzie worked as a lab tech so she is particularly interested in biosecurity and infectious diseases.



In her spare time you will find Lizzie either walking on the hills or scuba-diving around the coast.



### Worm Egg Counting

Cheshire Farm Vets have a brand new technology Faecal Worm Egg Count Machine .

The Ovacyte machine allows increased levels of accuracy and speed of results in determining if your animals need treatment or not.

**How to fetch a sample:** Walk into a field where the animals are grazing and take a fresh sample of dung. Put them in a plastic container or long plastic glove. Keep them in a fridge prior to submission and submit them within 24-48 hours collection at The Granary , Lower Withington , Macclesfield , SK11 9DP.



### New Veterinary Attestation rule for farmers

#### What's changing?

The new **Statutory Health Attestation** now requires all producers who sell livestock for slaughter to have an annual farm veterinary visit to allow their animal to be exported from the UK . The purpose is to comply with export requirements to verify the absence of notifiable disease and provide general advice on farm biosecurity.

#### Why is this changing?

This new rule will require all producers selling livestock for certify exports of Products of Animal Origin to the EU. The Export Health Certificates require that the animal's farm of origin has undergone regular visits by a veterinary surgeon . Producers will be required to obtain a signed declaration from their vet that the visit has taken place.

#### When is this changing?

From December 13th 2023 Farmers and vets must keep a copy of this declaration for their records and provide a copy to their livestock auction market or meat processor if asked. Farms which are part of qualifying assurance schemes do not need to complete the veterinary declaration.

**The qualifying schemes are:** Red Tractor

#### Next steps:

If you are NOT Red Tractor Assured and sell stock that could in whole or be part exported to the EU please call the office at Cheshire Farm Vets to book an appointment for one of the vets to complete your attestation form at your next farm visit to keep costs down for you.

**We can be contacted on: 01270 310010**



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## Autumn Housing of Cattle

**As the seasons move into autumn, most cattle farms look to start housing cattle over the winter months.**

This is the ideal disease control point where a little thought on which animals to treat for what, with what and when, can have a huge impact on treatment success, animal health and growth rates over the winter.

Use the opportunity to vaccinate spring born calves against viral pneumonias to protect them over the winter months. The causes of pneumonia are multifactorial. Viruses such as BRSv, PI3v and IBR can act individually or in combination as primary pathogens to cause significant lung and airway damage reducing the animal's resistance to secondary bacterial infection. BVD virus is an important trigger for many diseases through suppression of the immune system. By protecting against these four viruses, we can clearly have a dramatic effect on protecting the respiratory health of our calves.

All animals will potentially be at risk from ectoparasites at housing, so consider treating for lice and mange.

All cattle that have been grazing will have been exposed to roundworms, although on most farms only youngstock (first and second grazing season animals) will be at risk of disease as older animals will have developed immunity to these worms. Adults may then only need a treatment for ectoparasites whereas youngstock will need a treatment that covers both worms and ectoparasites

Although all stock grazing fluke risk pastures will be at risk from liver fluke, treatments can be more difficult to target effectively. Not all treatments kill all stages of fluke in the animal, and with the fluke challenge expected to come later this year, many animals might only be carrying early immature fluke at housing time.

**If you would like to discuss the best vaccination programmes and parasite treatments for housing animals over the winter please get in touch with us. One of our vets will be happy to draw up a plan for your specific herd or flock requirements.**

### 7 steps to a successful autumn housing cattle:

- Don't over stock
- Keep on top of worm/parasite burdens
- Keep sheds clean and dry with fresh bedding
- Make sure sheds have adequate ventilation
- Fix any leak troughs or pipes to reduce moisture levels
- Feed clean quality forage
- Reduce risk of disease with preventative treatment plan. Consider taking advantage of funding available through the Animal Health and Welfare Pathway – speak to one of our team or register your interest with DEFRA at: <https://apply-for-an-annual-health-and-welfare-review.defra.gov.uk/apply/register-your-interest>

## Ploughing Match

We had a fab day out at this years ploughing match.

Lots of bacon butties and burgers were consumed and we had a bit of a giggle with our selekt pumping competition to win a load of selekt goodies and a hand painted cow print bottle of Moët. Well done to Steven Wain for getting the fastest time with 23 seconds and Rob Fitton coming a close second with 24 seconds. Great pumping technique from both gentlemen!

Thanks all for coming to see us.

